

# VERMONT'S VOICE

WINTER 2022



AGRICULTURE • ENVIRONMENT • RECREATION

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## WINTER IN THE TOWN: Time to get things done!

Many of us use winter time to take care of household projects and generally relax a bit after the new year and get ready for spring!

Please share with *Vermont's Voice* what you are planning for your springtime as the winter winds down and days grow longer.

If you have a story idea or a photo to share, reach out to Judy Robb at [judy@vandehoney.com](mailto:judy@vandehoney.com) or Michael McDermott at [mmcdermott75@outlook.com](mailto:mmcdermott75@outlook.com).

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Vermont's Voice*.

— Judy, Gary and Michael, your Vermont's Voice Team  
at [judy@vandehoney.com](mailto:judy@vandehoney.com) or [mmcdermott75@outlook.com](mailto:mmcdermott75@outlook.com).



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## VERMONT VALLEY RIFLE CLUB

### The Town's best kept secret for the last 130 years

By Judy Robb with Jon Urness

Photos by Judy Robb except where noted

A question to you dear readers: Besides the Vermont Lutheran Church and the Town of Vermont itself, what is the oldest organization in Vermont? With a birthdate of 1892 there is no doubt, the Vermont Valley Rifle Club.

PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN



*Original Vermont Valley Rifle Club members, circa 1902.*

Vermont even today: Jorgen Moe, Peter Brager, Perter Halsten, Halsten Halsten (yes, first name same as the last), Anton Anderson, Tom Field, Adolph Field, Joseph Field, Alvin Anderson and Sever Skalet. Over the years, membership and participation has varied. In the old days competitors numbered a dozen or more but today a decent crowd would be half that on any given Saturday.

The rifle club's original shack was located at the Skalet farm on what is now Highway 78. Sever Skalet was the owner of the farm at the time of the club's founding and an enthusiastic participant at its beginning. Sever Skalet's farm held the perfect location – a valley just east of the farmstead that was protected from wind to some extent, was long enough to accommodate to 200-yard range and was easily accessible.

Son Jorgen later became owner of the farm and continued as a competitor. The club continued to hold their shooting events at the Skalet farm until December 2020 as the property was sold to Scott and Liz Herrling in January 2021. The Herrling's continue to be supporters of the shoot, and

One Saturday a month in early afternoon, if you happen to be in the vicinity, you may hear a unique sound of methodical antique rifle fire. This is when the Vermont Valley Rifle Club members meet for their monthly "shoot", a time-honored tradition in the Town that revels in marksman finesse and friendly banter.

It is commonly agreed the club has been around since 1892. As testament to this, a 1902 photo of the group posed rather formally with their rifles is displayed with other mementos in the rifle club's current location, an old windmill pump house dating to 1915 located at the Jon and Judy Urness farm, spruced up to now serve as the "shooting shack".

Original founding members had names that remain familiar to the Town of



*Jorgen Skalet with his Winchester Model 52, circa 1989. 4"x5" large format camera, silver gelatin print.*



*Homage to Skalet farm inside original shooting shack.*



*Vermont Valley Shooting Shack (original location).*



this past December, the club returned to the Herrling Farm for a special commemorative "Battle of the Bulge Match" where all competitors fired antique World War II era rifles – mostly M1 Garand. It is hoped the club can continue to return to the old home range for these special matches in the future.

## Schuetzen Style Format

The club has always followed a "Schuetzen" style format, a term that comes from Norwegian and German implying that the range should be 200 yards for all matches, shooters must shoot "offhand" (meaning standing with no support), and the use of iron sights only (no scopes).

The Schuetzen format was a bit of a hold-over from matches held in Norway which was familiar to these early Norwegian farmers who enjoyed getting together once a month for recreation, competition and socializing. In the early 1900's such



Jon Urness shooting his 1885 Highwall.



WVRC circa 1989



Syttende Mai 2008.



Wayne Parrell (one of only three shooters to fire a perfect score in 130 years of club history), Gene Turk, and Tim Schmitt inspect a vintage rifle during the "Battle of the Bulge" December 2021.

matches were wildly popular in the upper Midwest with Chicago being a hub, often featuring "Schuetzen fests".

As for the Vermont Valley Rifle Club, there is a traveling trophy for each match and with three consecutive wins, the shooter is entitled to call the trophy their own. For the oh so important Syttende Mai, the annual Norwegian Constitution Day, the match is held on the Saturday closest to the 17th of May. For this special event, there is also a separate traveling trophy. In the early days of the shoots, there were cash prizes, with one recorded as \$1.50 circa 1910.

## Rules and Scoring

In the old days, the target was scored 1 - 9 with a "9" being a bullseye, making a perfect score 90 in a ten-shot match. Later, because there are no commercial manufacturers of 1 - 9 ring targets, the club switched to an official NRA target with a bullseye scored as a 10. Now a perfect score would be 100. Also, shooters fire the match in three relays so that no one can take advantage of calm winds for their entire ten-shot string. This rule stands true today.

Speaking of perfect scores – there have been four perfect scores on record. Virgil Turk shot a perfect 90 on the old target in 1963 to mark the first. Sandy Pagel, a locally well-known gal sharpshooter, scored a perfect score twice. Wayne Parrell, a current member of the club, has hit perfection twice. Since going to the new target, Marty Parrell has come the closest with a score of 98 out of 100 and there have been several 96's.

## About Those Rifles

In keeping with the 130-year history of the club, any iron-sighted rifle is accepted for the matches. This ranges from some of the old original 1885 single-shot target rifles in large calibers such as 32-40, 38-55 and 45-70 to very high-end custom-built target rifles in .308, .223 or other modern cartridge. Shooters have been known to also fire .22 caliber rifles made by Anschütz or Remington. Members agree – it can be a real challenge on a windy day to keep those little .22's on paper at 200 yards!

Regardless of rifles fired, everyone competes in the same class and there are no handicaps like in bowling or golf.



VERMONT RIFLE CLUB 1954		VERMONT RIFLE CLUB 1955		VERMONT RIFLE CLUB 1956		VERMONT RIFLE CLUB 1957	
JAN 29 DON STANDISH 80	FEB 26 AL ANDERSON 85	JAN 28 R JANUSZ 77	FEB 23 JERROLD MOEN 85	JAN 25 JERROLD MOEN 85	FEB 22 JERROLD MOEN 85	JAN 25 JERROLD MOEN 85	FEB 22 JERROLD MOEN 85
MAR 26 AL ANDERSON 82	MAR 26 DR N.A. GILLESPIE 76	FEB 25 JERROLD MOEN 81	MAR 30 JERROLD MOEN 85	MAR 30 JERROLD MOEN 85	MAR 30 JERROLD MOEN 85	MAR 30 JERROLD MOEN 85	MAR 30 JERROLD MOEN 85
APR 30 AL ANDERSON 82	APR 30 AL ANDERSON 82	MAR 31 H NORSLIEN 83	APR 27 DON STANDISH 82	APR 27 DON STANDISH 82	APR 27 DON STANDISH 82	APR 27 DON STANDISH 82	APR 27 DON STANDISH 82
MAY 14 AL ANDERSON 82	MAY 14 AL ANDERSON 82	APR 1 CASH FEE	MAY 18 JACK LOSSA 83	MAY 18 JACK LOSSA 83	MAY 18 JACK LOSSA 83	MAY 18 JACK LOSSA 83	MAY 18 JACK LOSSA 83
MAY 28 AL ANDERSON 84	MAY 28 LYLE MILLER 82	APR 28 J LOSSA 72	AUG 31 C STANDORF 83	AUG 31 C STANDORF 83	AUG 31 C STANDORF 83	AUG 31 C STANDORF 83	AUG 31 C STANDORF 83
JUN 25 AL ANDERSON 86	JUN 25 AL ANDERSON 86	MAY 19 JERROLD MOEN 83	SEP 28 JERROLD MOEN 84	SEP 28 JERROLD MOEN 84	SEP 28 JERROLD MOEN 84	SEP 28 JERROLD MOEN 84	SEP 28 JERROLD MOEN 84
JUL 30 AL ANDERSON 77	JUL 30 AL ANDERSON 77	MAY 25 TED CHURCH 85	OCT 26 JERROLD MOEN 86	OCT 26 JERROLD MOEN 86	OCT 26 JERROLD MOEN 86	OCT 26 JERROLD MOEN 86	OCT 26 JERROLD MOEN 86
AUG 27 AL ANDERSON 82	AUG 27 AL ANDERSON 82	JUN 30 H BRUNNER 75	DEC 28 JERROLD MOEN 85	DEC 28 JERROLD MOEN 85	DEC 28 JERROLD MOEN 85	DEC 28 JERROLD MOEN 85	DEC 28 JERROLD MOEN 85
SEP 24 JERROLD MOEN 88	SEP 24 JERROLD MOEN 88	JUL 28 H GUNDERSON 72					
NOV 12 JERROLD MOEN 85	NOV 12 JERROLD MOEN 85	AUG 25 JERROLD MOEN 83					
DEC 31 JERROLD MOEN 85	DEC 31 JERROLD MOEN 85	SEP 29 JERROLD MOEN 76					
		OCT 26 DON STANDISH 80					
		NOV 24 GIL SKALET 79					

Score placards adorn the ceiling of the current shooting shack.



1885 Highwall.

How safe is this competitive sport? In 130 years, there has never been an accident or injury, mainly due to strict adherence to rules governing the handling of rifles, ammunition and the target area.

### **And the Coffee ...**

World War II veteran Almond Anderson was the designated coffee maker for quite some time. Later, Calvin Tollefson took over. Now club members take turns, but Marty Parrell seems to have the just the right brew master's touch currently. The coffee pot is over fifty years old, and legend has it that it has never been washed.

For a time, an egg was added to the brew to bring the grounds together, but now the method is pretty much throw in a handful of grounds, boil the crap out of it and enjoy straining the coffee through your teeth.

Oh yeah – coffee is served post-shoot – you don't want to be shaky when your turn to shoot comes up.

With the club now in its new shooting shack digs, the current club members have come to realize the camaraderie, competition and socializing as a group of like-minded target shooters is far more important than the club's location. Perhaps we can keep this tradition up for another 130 years.



*Original coffee pot, never washed and in service at least 50 years.*

## OUR BUSINESSES

### **BLACK EARTH ANGLING** **A business inspired by the location**

By Gary Cox

photos courtesy of Kyle Zempel



*Kyle Zempel and Reka*

We are fortunate to live in a place with ridges and valleys that give rise to beautiful vistas and also cold-water streams, one large and several smaller ones that teem with trout. Nearby Black Earth Creek and many of the smaller creeks that feed into it are enjoyable places for fishing, often fly fishing for trout. Black Earth Creek itself is a Class 1 trout stream which means that the water quality is good enough to support trout reproduction. The Town of Vermont has Vermont Creek along State Hwy 78 and Elvers and Ryan Creeks that then form East Blue Mounds Creek. Along with Black Earth Creek all of these attract trout anglers from near and far.

### **From Passion to Business**

These cold water resources caught the attention of Kyle Zempel. Living in Madison and in between jobs, Kyle, along with two of his best fishing buddies, Eric and Mark Pavlovich, decided it was time to leave the bustle of the city behind. Wanting to cut their commute time to the spring creek mecca in the Driftless region, they decided to venture beyond Madison's outer limits. A lucky search on Craigslist pointed them to The Black Earth Retreat; a country home in the rural hills of Vermont, WI. This move is widely agreed upon by these fishing aficionados to have been the spark

that started Black Earth Angling Co. (BEAC). In 2013 BEAC became the reality of dream and ambitions shared over cheap beers. Designed from the scribbles on bar napkins and a bit of young irresponsibility, BEAC was born.

## **Black Earth Angling Company Becomes Reality**

Since its early formation BEAC has grown into a full-time guiding operation servicing both cold and warm water fisheries, with a sprinkling of destination travel thrown in the mix. While Mark and Eric have since moved on to fulfill other life dreams, Kyle remains at the reins taking BEAC on to bigger and better seasons. With Kyle and his fiancé Hannah renting a house in the Town of Vermont for the past ten years, BEAC has grown over this time to be a successful business that calls for 12-hour days during fishing season's peak. Having a home tucked in the hills is a welcome retreat after long hours of guide work. Kyle continues to be thankful for his good fortune in finding a home in the town and all it has to offer.

Over the past ten years Kyle believes the town has retained all the character that first attracted him to this location. His work keeps him occupied, but he has had opportunities to get to know some great neighbors in the township, with walking his dog often being the impetus to meet them. Fishing guide customers for 25 days straight might seem to be enough to push one to swear off fishing for a while, but the local Vermont streams are so unique and wonderful that Kyle still sneaks out to enjoy his original passion for fishing on his own when he can carve out a few quiet hours.



*Kyle Zempel and Reka with a nice smallmouth on the Wisconsin River. Kyle guides on the river for more than smallmouth bass. Hannah shows off a beautiful walleye also on the Wisconsin.*



*Kyle fishes a local Vermont stream when its a bit less crowded.*

The recent covid pandemic has resulted in an increased interest in BEAC. It seems many people are looking for a fresh experience in nature. Having a professional fishing guide provide the equipment and show you the best locations is a valuable service. Add in high quality locally sourced homemade lunches on day trips and it's no surprise Kyle and BEAC can be booked for the season before the end of March. With the help and support of Ben Lubchansky and Hannah Matousek, BEAC moves forward to strengthen the fly fishing community and provide anglers of all abilities with a genuine, world class experience.

If you would like to learn more about Black Earth Angling Co. or even book a trip check out their website: [blackearthangling.com](http://blackearthangling.com)

## OUR HISTORY

### CHEESE FACTORIES OF YORE

By Michael McDermott with Marguerite Parell

There are records of over 20 cheese factories in the Town of Vermont alone. Southwestern Dane County may have had as many as 110 such facilities in the early 1900's. Many of the names of the ones in Vermont are familiar and include Dineen, Elvers, Mickelson, Ryan, Kelliher, Bohn, and Greenwald.

While history and agriculture have changed, we still have a nationally awarded cheese manufacturer in Bleu Mont Dairy on County F.

The history of the many such cheese producing facilities includes perhaps hundreds of other cheese-making techniques and varieties from many countries, with cheese becoming a major product in the Town of Vermont.

Starting in the late 1800's as dairy farming grew in Wisconsin to make it one of the largest milk producers, local cheese making became one way farmers could convert milk that could spoil without refrigeration into a product that could be preserved and sold. Farmers would bring their milk along with wood for fire to assist with the process -- a farmer had to bring one load of wood for every two cows that were supplying milk.

We know more about some of the local dairies from records and neighbors. To the right is the Diamond Cheese Factory which was at the corner of Hwy 78 and Vermont Church Road. It was initially built by John Braun around 1888. The first cheesemaker was John Foye followed



The first cheesemaker was John Foye followed by more than a dozen others. The factory finally closed in 1958 and the building torn down to widen Hwy 78.

Another interesting location was the Vermont American Cheese Factory at the corner of JJ and Blue Mounds Trail, now the location of land recently being developed including a new house. The factory operated from 1888 to 1967. Ole Amble was the first cheesemaker, followed by Fred Luder, Henry Norslein, John Jerkovic, Torge Goderstad, Adam Hefty Sr., and Oscar Roshardt. It is said that the idea of the Patrons Mercantile originated there. The facility made Swiss cheese in the beginning followed by Brick, Limburger and American. The image of the dairy shown here was featured in a publication of the Ford Motor Company. The small structure on the right still stands.

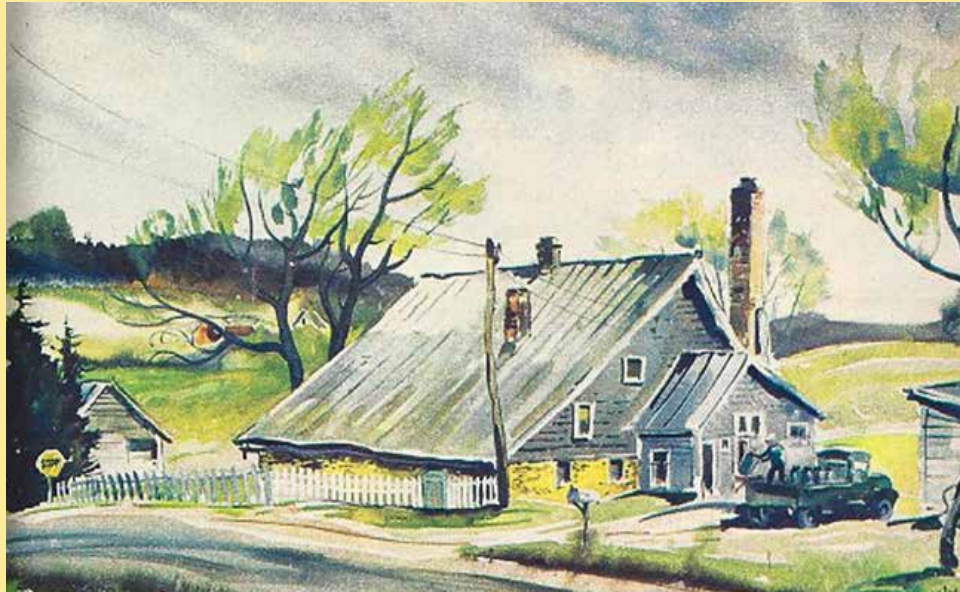
Cheese factories have a rich history in the Town of Vermont and you can still see many of the old outlines of the dairies that are now houses with that unmistakable look.

For more information about cheese factories in the area and our town see:

**[www.mthorebhistory.org/cheese-factories.html](http://www.mthorebhistory.org/cheese-factories.html)**



*Diamond Cheese Factory*



*Vermont American Cheese Factory*



## A MAJOR BLOW TO CARDINAL HICKORY CREEK Permits to Cross the Mississippi Overturned, Line in Question

By Michael McDermott

A federal judge reversed the decisions of two federal agencies that had approved the CHC line crossing the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge and with his ruling calls the entire project into question. The Town of Vermont was involved earlier in the project's history, and many people and organizations continue to oppose the line in court.

Last week, Judge William Conley threw out the previous approvals by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Rural Utility Service (RUS) for the CHC line to cross over the Refuge between Iowa and Wisconsin, near Cassville.

The judge reversed the RUS approval because it did not adequately consider alternatives. Judge Conley characterized the Fish and Wildlife granting a right-of-way through the reserve as "arbitrary and capricious" and not compatible with the refuge's mission.

This decision comes out of a great deal of work for years by CHC opponents and specifically as a result of a lawsuit filed by the Environmental Law and Policy Center on behalf of the National Wildlife Refuge Association, the Driftless Area Land Conservancy, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, and the Defenders of Wildlife.

When the lawsuit was filed the utilities quickly changed their application — the Fish and Wildlife Service suddenly found errors in their work and a land exchange was proposed. The judge declared this all to be inadequate and said that work on the crossing must stop.

The findings by the judge reveal that, to say the least, the relationship between the utilities and the federal agencies is questionable. A close and more neutral examination proved this.

There is another lawsuit pending in Wisconsin state court that suggests the members of the Public Service Commission (PSC) were biased and should have excused themselves from the decision-making process. Though the utilities have filed papers changing their approach to the PSC representation, they may be in serious trouble in this case as well.



The Town of Vermont was involved in formally opposing the line when one alternative proposal of the transmission line was to run directly through the town. In addition to local effects, the line can be deemed unnecessary even by the PSC staff. The diagram shown not only represents the crossing being disapproved but hints at a low voltage alternative improving local lines for a fraction of the cost that we all would have to pay.

Congratulations to those who worked so hard on this and may this major blow prove fatal to the unneeded, expensive, and destructive CHC project.

## **Had Enough of Winter? Thinking about Springtime?**

We'd like to tell your spring planning and gardening stories - let us know if you would like to be part of our Spring 2022 issue!



## **O U R   H I S T O R Y**

### **VERMONT TOWNSHIP: “RE-PHOTOGRAPHY” INITIATIVE**

Approximately ten local sites are being included in a “then and now” photography project with the goal of providing information related to the history and evolution of land use in the Town of Vermont. The information will be shared with Town of Vermont residents and be useful as input into future refinement of the Town’s comprehensive Land Use Plan.

The project is spearheaded by the Black Earth Historical Society and funded by the Wisconsin Humanities.

If you have historical images of Vermont Township lands, farmsteads, cheese factories or the like, contact David Stanfield: [jdstanfi@wisc.edu](mailto:jdstanfi@wisc.edu) or 608.556.0556.

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**THEN:** CIRCA 1930



**Images “then and now”:**

Old Jorgen Skalet Farm on Hwy 78, c. 1930, and now owned by the Herrling family.

**NOW:** 2021



## TRAIL CAM FINDS



*Best Bobcat movie stills ever! Two bobcats hunting together, January 7, 2022 Town of Vermont.*

Photos copyright Judy Robb.

Share your trail cam pics with *Vermont's Voice*! We'll publish them in our next issue.

## VENISON LOIN PÂTÉ

Looking for a new way to use some of the delectable venison in your freezer? I modified this recipe from writer and outdoorsman Tom Davis' Woodcock Pâté. It's a sure crowd pleaser for the venison lovers in your tribe.

8-ounces venison loin (whole)

1 teaspoon balsamic vinegar

2 – 3 Tablespoons olive oil

One 8-ounce package creamed cheese, room temperature

1/3 small onion, finely chopped

1 clove garlic

1 teaspoon white or black pepper, ground

4 - 5 small shiitake mushrooms, sliced (or white button mushrooms or whatever mushroom variety suits your fancy)

2 Tablespoons butter

2 – 3 Tablespoons brandy, cognac, Calvados or whatever else you feel like using



PHOTO BY JUDY ROBB

Rub the balsamic vinegar over the venison loin and let stand at room temp for about thirty minutes.

Pat the venison loin dry. Season lightly with salt and pepper.

Heat the oil over medium high heat in a heavy-bottomed skillet (cast iron as an example) until it's brown on both sides and cooked. Don't worry if it seems a little over cooked; for this dish medium is just right. Remove the cooked venison to a plate to cool. Chop into large chunks.

In the same skillet, sauté the onions in 1 Tablespoon of the butter for about two– three minutes on low until translucent (don't let brown). Add the garlic and toss for about a minute. Scrape into a small bowl to cool.

In the same skillet, sauté the mushrooms in the remaining 1 Tablespoon butter until they're slightly browned. Remove from heat and when cool enough to handle chop coarsely (or chop more if you like your shrooms a bit smaller) and set aside.

Put the meat in the bowl of a food processor and process until finely shredded. Then add the softened cream cheese, the onions and garlic, and pepper and continue to process, stopping as necessary to scrape the sides of the bowl, until the mixture is well-combined.

Transfer the mixture to a large bowl. Add the chopped mushrooms and whatever booze you're using (go easy; you can always add more) and stir with a wooden spoon until thoroughly combined. Taste at this point and adjust the seasonings as necessary. Add a couple drops of Tabasco to spice it up if you like. Transfer to a serving crock, press a layer of plastic wrap onto the surface of the pâté to keep it moist and refrigerate until ready to use.

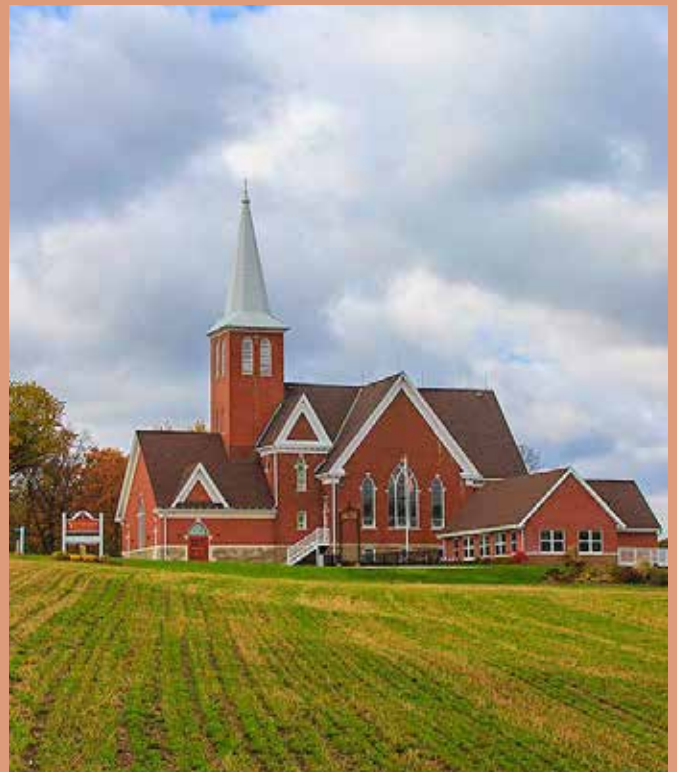
**Note:** It is better the next day after the flavors have melded. Make the day ahead of your party!

## **VERMONT CHURCH MAKES MAJOR LAND PURCHASE**

The Vermont Lutheran Church has purchased an integral 115-acre parcel adjacent to the church at Vermont Church Road and State Highway 78.

The acquisition was made possible through the bequeathments, gifts, donations and contributions to the church's Legacy Fund from church members and non-members who wished to assure the purchase of the land to protect the church's view scape, provide for expansion of the church's cemetery and to insure the long-term sustainability of the entire Vermont congregation, its programs, and the community within the Town of Vermont as a whole.

There are many options for use of the property, such as prairie planting, expanded parking, a community garden space, hiking trails, a picnic area, space for outdoor or wilderness worship, study and beyond.





## THE TOWN OF VERMONT WEBSITE HAS MOVED!

The Wisconsin Election Commission has requested that all state governmental entities move their website to a .gov domain for added election security. Using a .gov domain helps ensure that when people navigate to a government website that they can trust that the content on the website is being provided by the actual governmental entity.

The Town of Vermont's website looks the same as it has only now with a new web address. When you next use the Town's website, go to [www.townofvermontwi.gov](http://www.townofvermontwi.gov)

We will also be transitioning to new email addresses for town officials within the next couple of months. Those new email address will be in the format of [@townofvermontwi.gov](mailto:@townofvermontwi.gov) to be consistent with the new website. We will provide another update when that transition is complete.



## PROPERTY TAXES AND THE TOWN OF VERMONT BUDGET

By Karen Carlock and Becca Thompson

Each year property taxes impact each property owner in the township.

A Municipal Levy Limit Worksheet is used yearly to calculate the allowed Town of Vermont levy:

- Most numbers in the worksheet are populated by Wisconsin Department of Revenue
- The worksheet allows for an adjustment based on public safety debt
- The municipal allowed levy, school district levy amounts, and the public safety levy amounts are entered into the levy worksheet in early December – the county uses that worksheet to generate tax bills by district for each property owner in the township

The simplest explanation regarding property taxes is that the amount a property owner is billed is based on the assessed value of a property. Where this gets a bit more complex is that the contribution of each municipality to either a fire district or school district is based on the total equalized value of that municipality as well as the portion of the district that the municipality makes up. Equalized value for each municipality is determined each year (there is a department at the WI Department of Revenue focused on this) based on market value changes and a few other factors.

Referendums in place are indicated on the tax bill. For example, Wisconsin Heights school district has an operational referendum that runs until 2024 and a building referendum that runs until 2042. This year's property tax bills are the first where property owners in the Mount Horeb Fire District will see the tax impact from the new fire station building.

The chart below lays out the total tax levy from 2016 through 2022. It shows the total levy, the portion that goes to the Town of Vermont for operations and the portions that go to each of the fire and EMS districts. Since 2016, there has been a total tax levy increase of \$63,463.89. The increase in the Town of Vermont portion has been only \$651.70.



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022
Total Levy	\$ 427,611.11	\$ 432,117.15	\$ 439,977.15	\$ 442,250.15	\$ 461,626.00	\$ 472,302.00	\$ 491,075.00
		1.05%	1.82%	0.52%	4.38%	2.31%	3.97%
Town of Vermont	\$ 368,577.39	\$ 372,003.91	\$ 364,207.63	\$ 331,889.53	\$ 378,717.70	\$ 372,408.27	\$ 369,229.09
		0.93%	-2.10%	-8.87%	14.11%	-1.67%	-0.85%
Black Earth Fire Levy	\$ 19,340.32	\$ 19,290.44	\$ 75,769.52	\$ 43,798.88	\$ 19,648.45	\$ 20,933.81	\$ 21,299.96
Black Earth Fire Truck	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,942.77	\$ 12,942.77	\$ 12,942.77
Black Earth Fire Accrual	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,470.84	\$ 9,470.84
District One EMS Levy	\$ 3,236.40	\$ 3,230.80		\$ 5,027.90	\$ 4,847.08	\$ 4,855.57	\$ 10,077.75
Mt. Horeb Fire/EMS Levy	\$ 36,457.00	\$ 37,592.00		\$ 61,533.84	\$ 45,470.00	\$ 50,710.00	\$ 53,914.00
Mt. Horeb Fire/EMS Building Loan Repayment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 980.74	\$ 14,140.59
		1.83%	26.04%	45.65%	-24.88%	20.49%	21.98%

Each year, the Town of Vermont board starts budget planning in September for the upcoming budget year. Within the town there are several standard costs. The significant budgetary item that changes from year to year is the amount spent on chip sealing roads. The board sticks to a quadrant schedule with each ¼ of the township having its roads chip sealed and then two years for a larger road improvement project before the 4-year rotation begins again. The 2022 approved budget calls for approximately 6.53 miles of road to be chip sealed (est. \$17K/mile). Additionally, the board approved a full overlay of Kelliher road with the cost covered by American Rescue Plan Act funds, a local road improvement grant and operational budget funds. The detailed budget is available on the town website for your review at: [townofvermonwi.gov/localgovernment/budget-financials](http://townofvermonwi.gov/localgovernment/budget-financials)

## CONTACT VERMONT'S VOICE

Micheal McDermott *Editor* ..... [mmcdermott75@outlook.com](mailto:mmcdermott75@outlook.com)  
Judy Robb *Editor* ..... [judy@vandehoney.com](mailto:judy@vandehoney.com)  
Gary Cox *Production* ..... [coxco@chorus.net](mailto:coxco@chorus.net)

## VERMONT TOWNSHIP BOARD

**Town Board Chair** Karen Carlock ..... 773-682-8599  
email [chair@townofvermont.com](mailto:chair@townofvermont.com)  
**Town Clerk** Katie Zelle ..... 608-767-2457(x1)  
email [clerk@townofvermont.com](mailto:clerk@townofvermont.com)  
**Town Treasurer** Becca Thompson ..... 608-767-2457(x3)  
**Town Board Supervisor** Doug Meier ..... 608-219-1886  
**Town Board Supervisor** John Hallick ..... 608-767-2225  
**Town Board Supervisor** Alex McKenzie ..... 608-437-9842  
**Town Board Supervisor** Autumn McGree ..... 608-437-2339

**VERMONT TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**

<b>Plan Commission Chair</b> Doug Meier .....	608-219-1886
<b>Plan Commission Secretary and Member</b> Diane Anderson.....	608-767-3953
email <a href="mailto:plancommission@townofvermont.com">plancommission@townofvermont.com</a>	
<b>Plan Commission Vice Chair</b> Jim Elleson .....	608-767-3553
<b>Plan Commission Member</b> Judy Robb .....	608-338-3106
<b>Plan Commission Member</b> Scott Moe .....	608-767-4738
<b>Plan Commission Member</b> Dean Bossenbroek.....	608-669-1728
<b>Plan Commission Member</b> Autumn McGree.....	608-437-2339



- WHAT'S INSIDE:
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